| U.S. Pa Under the Raperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a colla | atent and Trademark Office: U.S. | PTO/SB/30 (08-00) rough 10/31/2002. OMB 0851-0031 6. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE splays a valid OMB control number. | \$ 0 |
|--|--------------------------------------|--|-------|
| REQUEST FOR | Application Number Filing Date | 09/103,398 June 24, 1998 | 1) 10 |
| CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) | First Named Inventor Group Art Unit | AKIRA SENDA | 7/04 |
| TRANSMITTAL Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or ctant application | Examiner Name | J. Whipkey | / |
| filed on or after June 8, 1995. See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA). | Atlorney Docket Number | 03500.012806 (35.C12808) | |

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application. NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 a. Previously submitted Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on (Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered). i. II. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on iii. Other DEC 1 6 2003 b. X Enclosed MATCH & RETUR Rechnology Center 2600 Amendment/Reply Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s) iii. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) Other Preliminary Amendment Miscellaneous Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required) b. The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed. 3. Fees W The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies in the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 06-1205 12/15/2003 SDENBOB1 00000116 09103398 i. RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) 770.00 UP Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17) ä. 02 FC:1801 iii. Other A check in the amount of \$ _770.00 _ is enclosed. Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed) SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED Name (Print/Type) Daniel S. Glueck 37,838 Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) Signature Date December 12, 2003 CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envetope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on: Name (Print/Type)

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND Fees and Completed Forms to the following address: Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231.

Date

DSG/dc

Signature